

Ochoco National Forest and Crooked River National Grassland Native Plant Restoration Program

2013 Accomplishments

The Ochoco National Forest Native Plant Restoration Program continues to focus on developing/planting stock of native grasses, forbs, shrubs and trees for restoration projects. In addition to the highlights below, funds were also used to test, clean, and store native seeds; develop contracts; provide revegetation consultation & develop revegetation plans; develop/track budgets.

Seed and Propagule Production/Purchase:

- Purchased native forb seed from Deschutes Basin Native Plant Seedbank.

Seed Collection:

- Collected tufted hairgrass seed (*Deschampsia cespitosa*) for future seed production to incorporate into a riparian seed mix for the Ochoco NF.
- Collected seeds from milkweed species (*Asclepias* sp.) for the Xerces Society to enhance butterfly habitat.

Restoration Project Implementation: Planted 420 native propagules; seeded 825 lbs. of native seed. Projects include:

- Seeded 135 acres of prescribed fire burn area
- Seeded 91 acres of timber sale log landings and skid trails.
- Seeding and planting propagules for riparian restoration projects.
- Restoration activities included constructing wattles for streambank restoration using 300 willow (*Salix* spp.) whips.
- 75 lbs. of seed (Idaho fescue, bluebunch wheatgrass, Sandburg's bluegrass, blue wildrye, squirreltail, yarrow and penstemon) was spread across 6.5 acres in the Powell timber sale for erosion control and to prevent weed establishment.
- Paulina District partnered with Trout Unlimited to replace an undersized Culvert and do in-stream restoration work along Crazy Creek. We planted 370 riparian plant species, including cottonwoods, willows, alders, chokecherries, service berry, rose, currents and dogwood.

Revegetation Project Planning:

- Developed a revegetation plan for the Crazy Creek Stream Restoration and Culvert Replacement Project.



Figure 1. Krista Lopez and Katie Grenier collect tufted hairgrass (*Deschampsia cespitosa*) for future restoration projects.



Fig. 2. In two years, 2 lbs. of tufted hairgrass seed can be propagated in a one-acre field to produce 250-450 lbs. of seed.

Year Awarded: 2013

Expenditures: \$29,933 Total Funding

\$ 10,000 NFWW

\$ 20,000 NFTM

Partners/Contractors/Coop: Clearwater Native Plant Nursery, Trout Unlimited, Xerces Society, Crooked River Watershed Council, Benson Farms, Deschutes Basin Native Plant Seedbank, Clarno Hardwood Facility.

Contacts: Mark Lesko (541-416-6416); Krista Lopez (541-416-6635); Katie Grenier (541-383-5564).



Figure 3. Botanists, Mark Lesko and Krista Lopez, actively engaged in restoration projects.



Ochoco National Forest
3160 NE 3rd Street
Prineville, Oregon 97754